

# OLED Activity and Technology Development

Furong Zhu

Institute of Materials Research and Engineering  
Singapore

Symposium on Sustainability Driven Innovative  
Technologies, May 7-8, 2009, Hong Kong



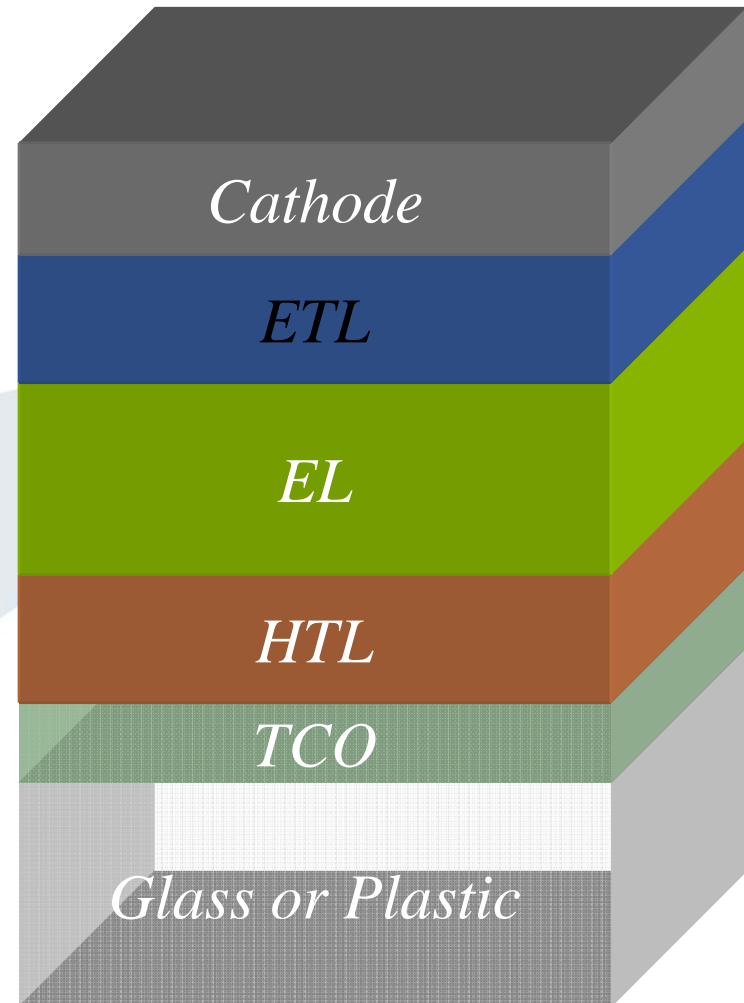
IMRE

# Outline

- ◆ What is an OLED?
- ◆ What is the Promise of OLED?
- ◆ OLED Applications and Market Share
- ◆ Progress with OLED Performance
- ◆ Advances in OLED Panel Technologies
- ◆ Solution Printing Technologies
- ◆ OLED Opportunities & Challenges

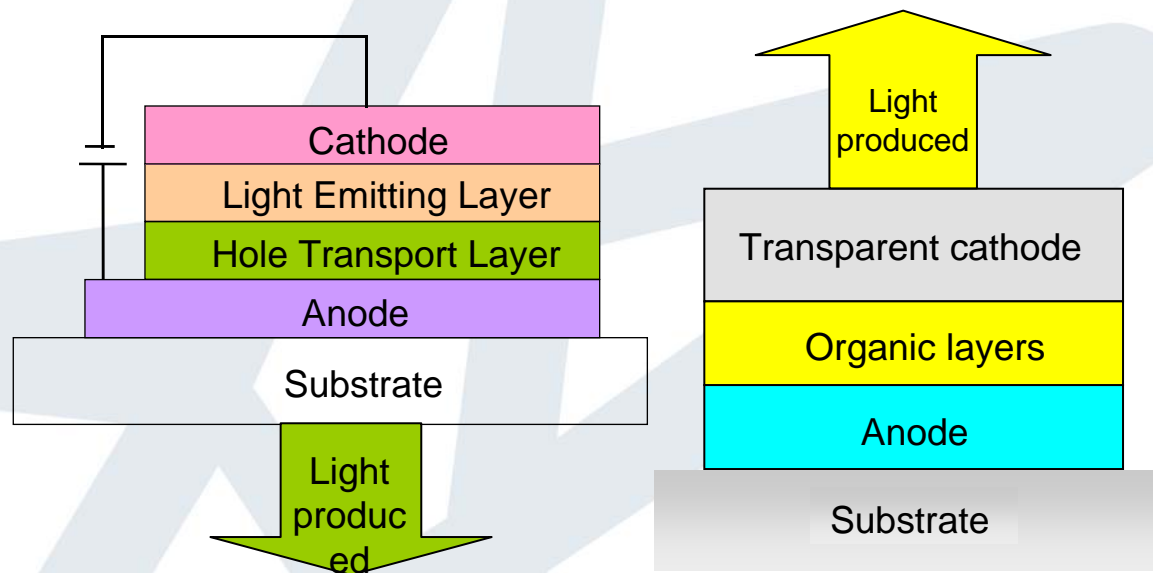
# What is an OLED?

- OLED = Organic Light-Emitting Diode
- OLEDs are semiconductor devices
- Construction of OLED
  - Substrate
  - TCO film (anode)
  - Hole transport layer
  - Emissive layer
  - Electron transport layer
  - Metal film (cathode)



# Principle – How does it work?

Holes and electrons, injected from anode and cathode, combine to release energy thereby producing light.



Conventional OLED

TOLED

Examples of materials

**Cathode:**

Ca/Ag, Li:Al, Mg:Ag, etc.

**Emitter:**

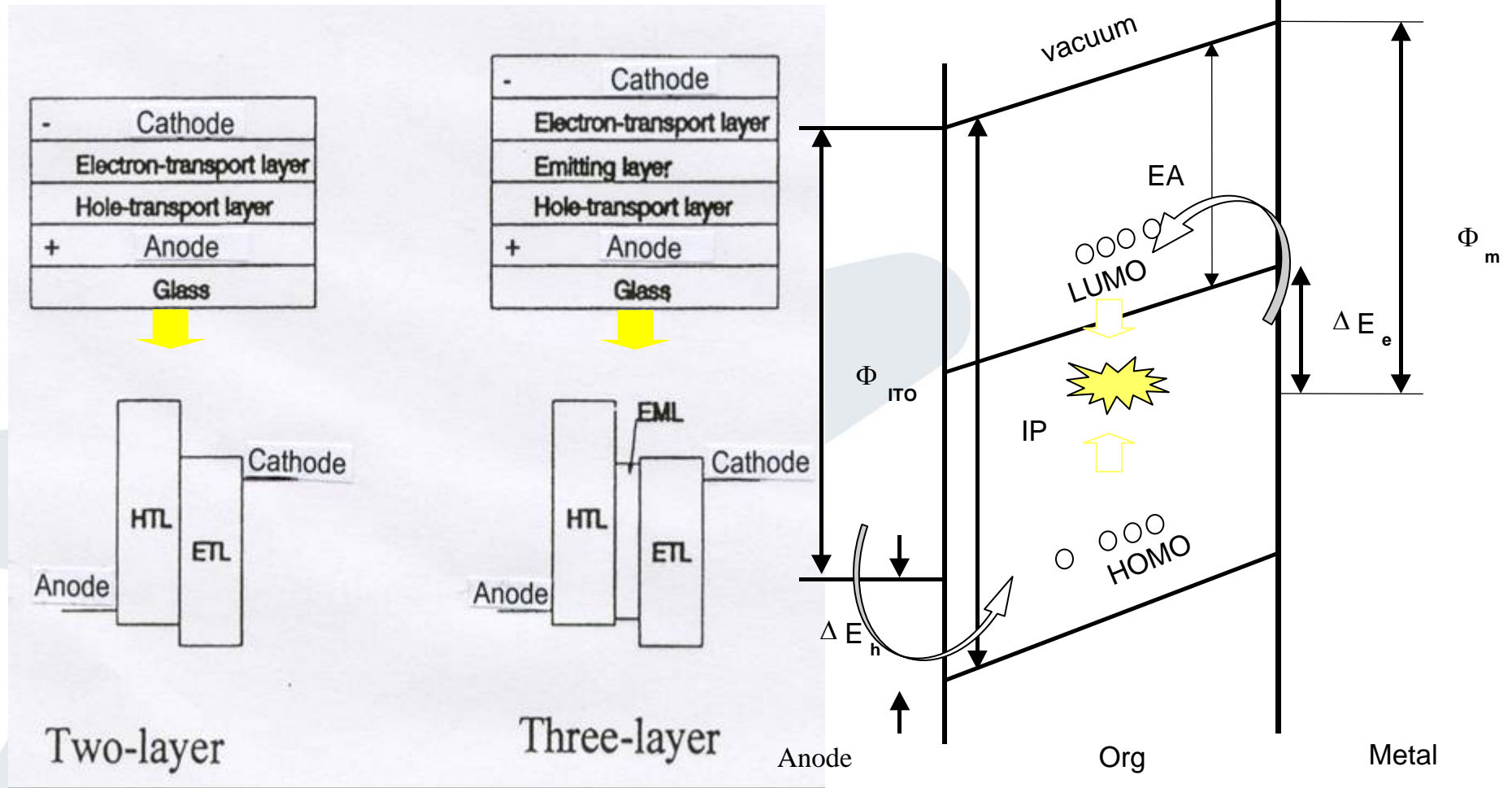
EL organic, Alq<sub>3</sub>, etc.

HTL and EHL

**Anode:** ITO, IZO,

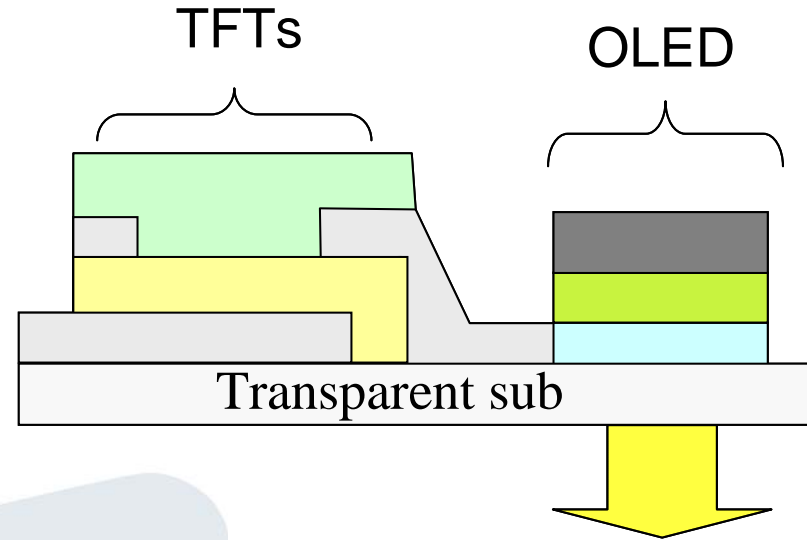
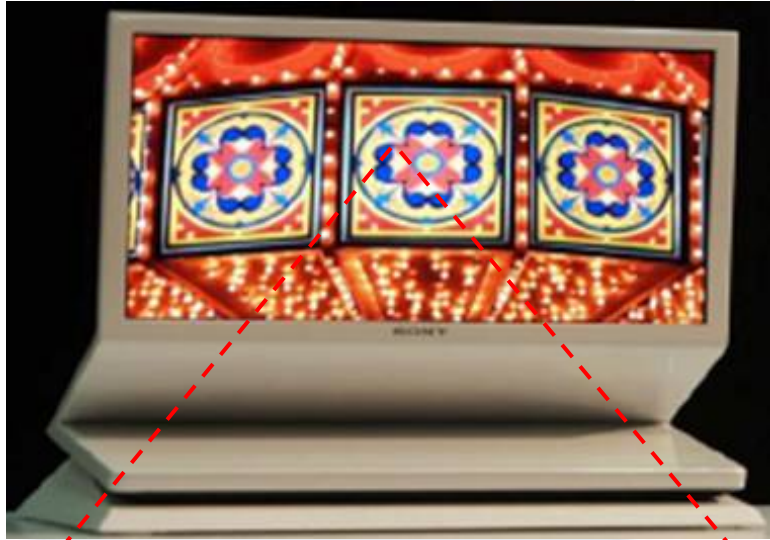
**Substrate:** Rigid & flexible

# Schematics of OLED structure

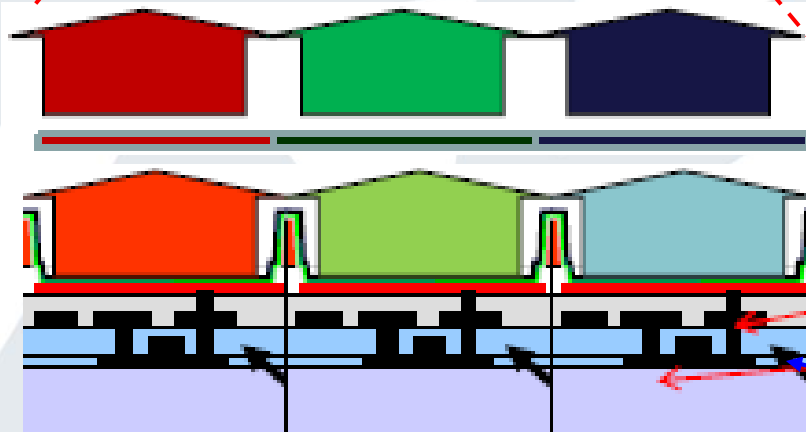


Balancing of electron and hole currents

# Top-emitting OLED



Conventional bottom emission OLED displays



Sony 11" TV uses TOLED cavity tuning + Color Filter

- Color filter to improve the gamut
- Cavity structure for color tuning
- TOLED structure with a large aperture
- LTPS backplane for AMOLED displays

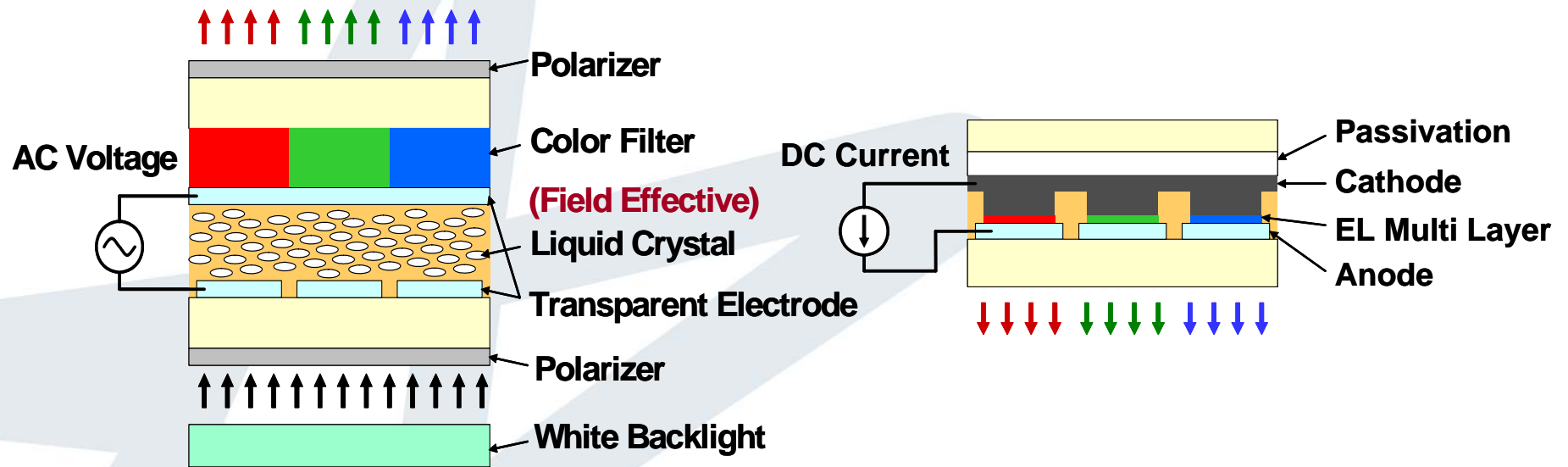
# What is the Promise of OLED?

- Contrast ratio > 10,000:1
- Response time < 0.1 ms
- Wider viewing angle > 170°
- Total display thickness < 1.5mm
- Low power consumption < 50% of LCD



- The most important attribute has become the simple device structure that can significantly reduce manufacturing cost
- As LCDs continue to improve, it is clear that OLEDs must deliver a significant cost advantage to become mainstream

# OLED's simpler structure leads to low cost



LCD is a gray scale shutter for light

OLED is primary a color light source

# Power Efficiency: Less power better picture

TFT-OLED

TFT-LCD

150 cd/m<sup>2</sup>

150 cd/m<sup>2</sup>



TFT-OLED

TFT-LCD

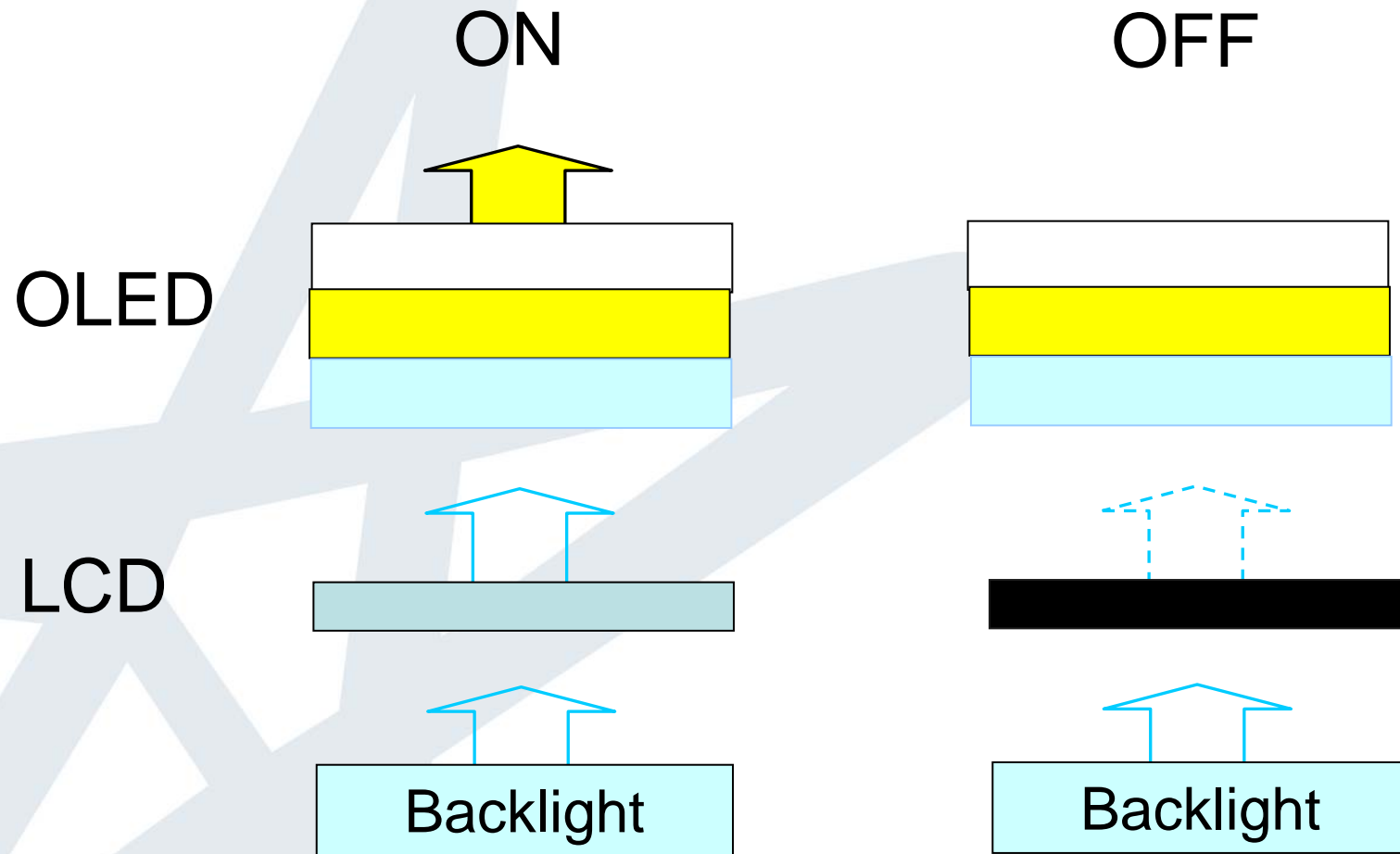
150 cd/m<sup>2</sup>

250 cd/m<sup>2</sup>



SOURCE: Samsung SDI Stand, FPD Yokohama, October 2006

# “Black” is black



# Power consumption in AMOLED & AMLCD

Panel	Active Area (cm <sup>2</sup> )	L <sub>peak</sub> (nits)	P <sub>max</sub> (Watt)	P1 (W) Cartoon	P2 (W) Action film	P3(W) Mystery
8" AMLCD DVD Player (LTA0808332A)	175	135	3.89	3.89	3.89	3.89
7" AMLCD DVD Player (LB070W02)	132	106	2.54	2.54	2.54	2.54
7" AMOLED	146	150 (with circular polarizer)	2.81	1.00	0.71	0.52

Best fit with battery-powered applications

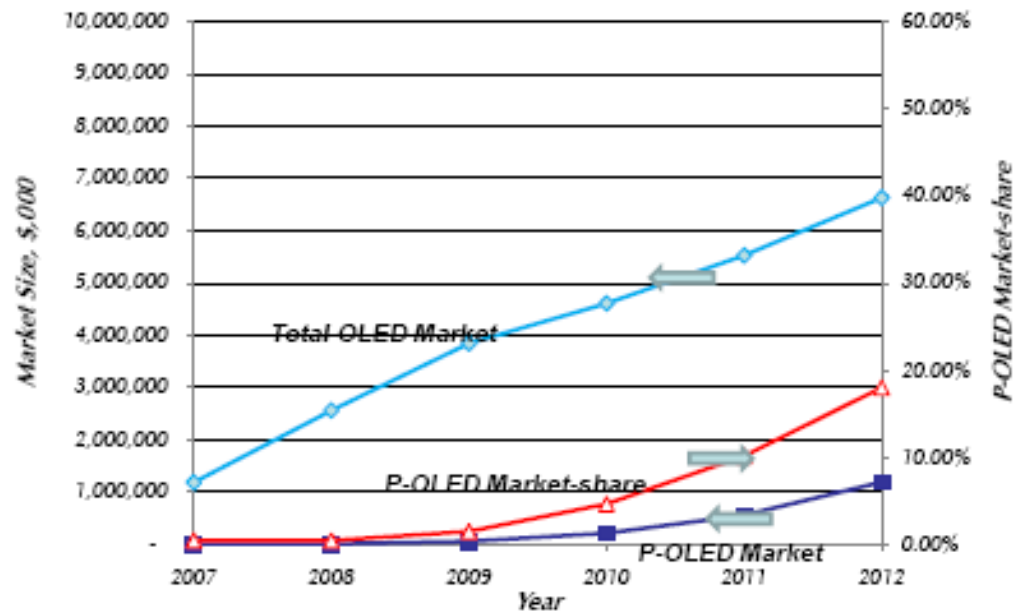
Source: DuPont Displays



IMRE

# OLED development

- ◆ 1989 OLED was discovered in a useful form, Kodak
- ◆ 1991 University research, Cambridge
- ◆ 1994 Launch of industrial R&D
- ◆ 1998 First OLED product on the marketplace
- ◆ Today New OLED industry



OLED Market  
forecast to reach  
\$6B by 2121

OLED Market size from DisplaySearch 2007

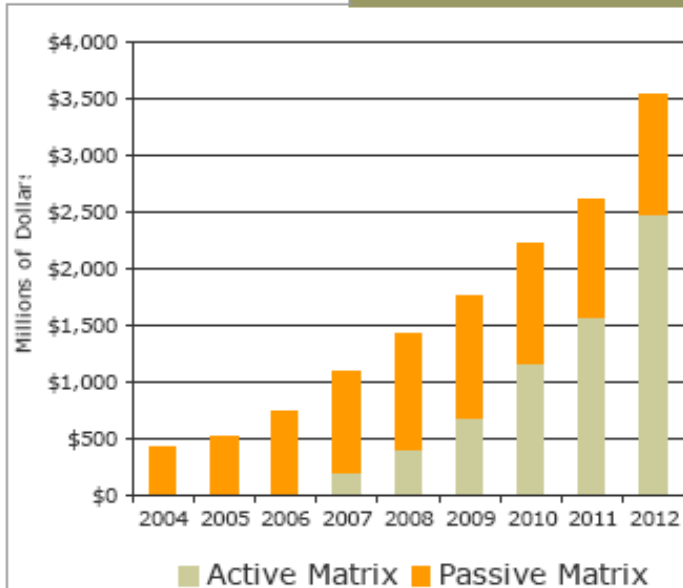


IMRE

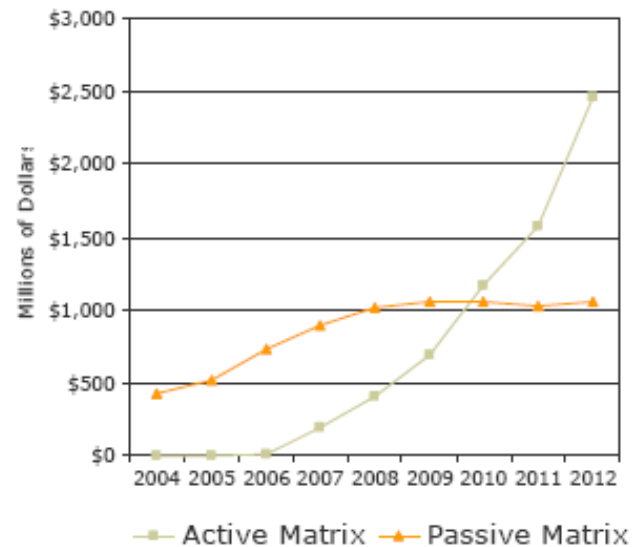
# OLED display market forecast

*iSuppli*

## Active and Passive Markets

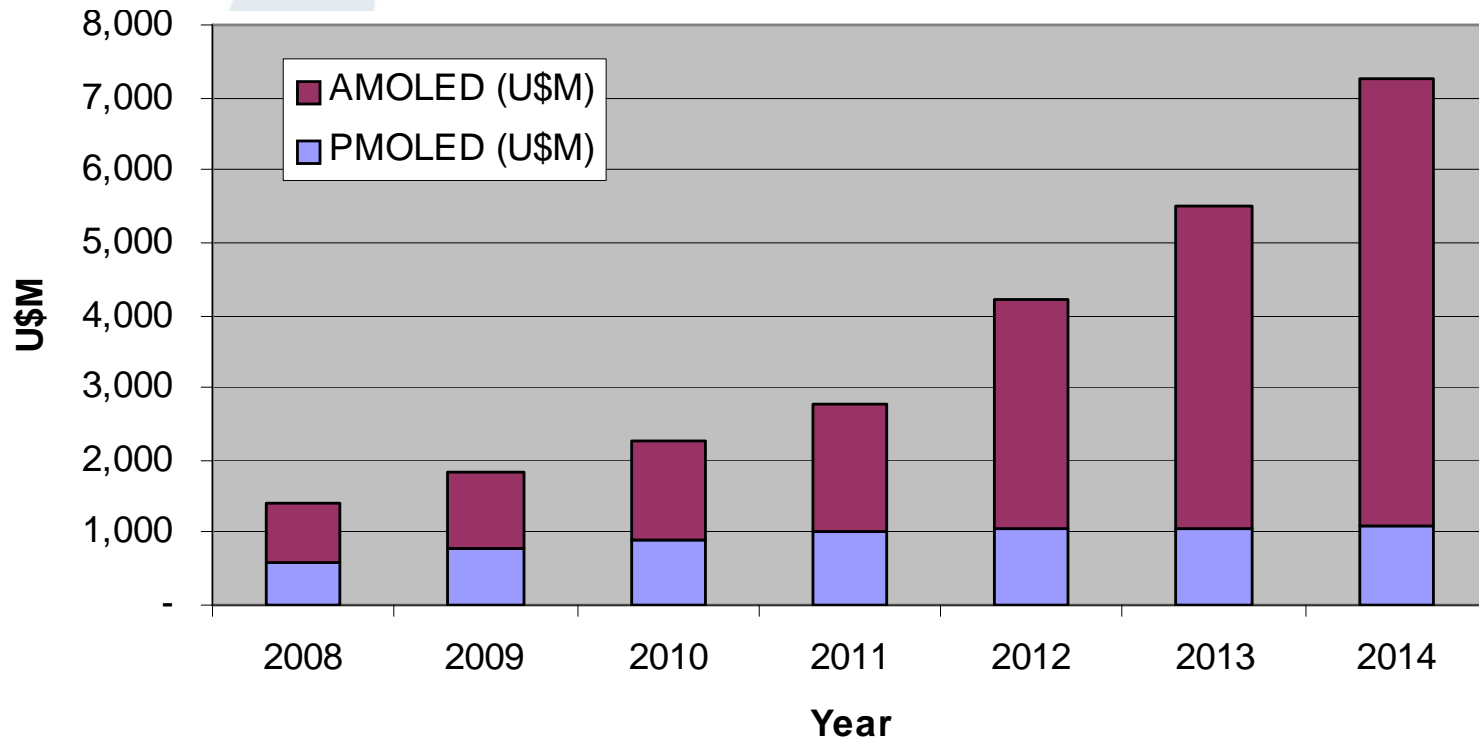


Same data, different view...



Overall growth of OLED market is highly dependent on the success of AMOLED

# OLED display market forecast



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>OLED Market (U\$M)</b>	1,400	1,840	2,252	2,758	4,214	5,499	7,276
PMOLED (U\$M)	600	800	900	1,000	1,050	1,070	1,075
AMOLED (U\$M)	800	1,040	1,352	1,758	3,164	4,429	6,201

Source: DisplaySearch, isupply



IMRE

# OLED Applications \_ Displays



Samsung SDI AM-OLED mobile phone displays



Creative MP3



AUO: BenQ-Siemens



eMagine



low-cost simple displays and lighting panels, signage, merchandising, keypad lighting, toys etc



Samsung Electronics:40" AM-OLED Demonstrator in 2005/6: White EL on C/F

# OLED Applications \_ AMOLED TVs

## SONY

- Started to sell 11" OLED TV

## SAMSUNG

- 2 million 2" panel in Q4 2007
- 21" (2009), 42" (2010)

## CMEL

- 32" (2010) w/ UDC's PHOLED material

## Sumitomo Chemical

- Acquired CDT(2007), P-OLED TV (2009)

## Toshiba

- 20" TV (2009) w/ TMD panel

## LG Philips LCD

- 3" and 2.2" AMOLED, OLED TV(2008)

## Epson

- 2" and 7" w/ small molecule (2009)



Sony 11" OLED TV

Feature	Specification
Screen size	11"
Number of pixels	1,024(H)×800(V) (W-SVGA)
Contrast ratio	>1,000,000:1
Brightness	All white: 200 cd/m <sup>2</sup> Peak: > 800 cd/m <sup>2</sup>
Numbers of colors	16.7 million colors (8 bits/color, >100% NTSC)
Device structure	'Super' top emission structure



IMRE

# OLED Applications \_ Lighting

NEC OLED lighting 15cm x15cm



Matsushita Electric



Large size white  
OLED panel:  
30cmx30cm



# OLED Applications \_ Lighting

## Current Status:

- Novald: 35 lm/W, lifetime 100K @ 1000 cd/m<sup>2</sup>
- UDC: ~ 40 lm/W
- Eastman Kodak: 50 lm/W (2008)

## Future Target:

- 100-150 lumens/W for OLED lighting in the long run

## Potential Manufacturers:

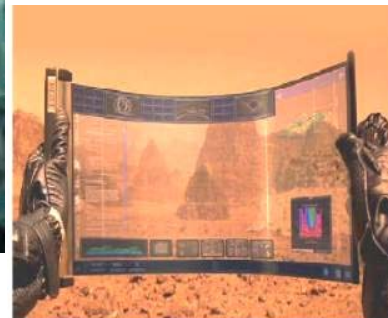
- Osram Opto Electronics
- Philips
- GE
- Matsushita Electric
- NEC
- ...



# OLED Applications \_ Flexible displays

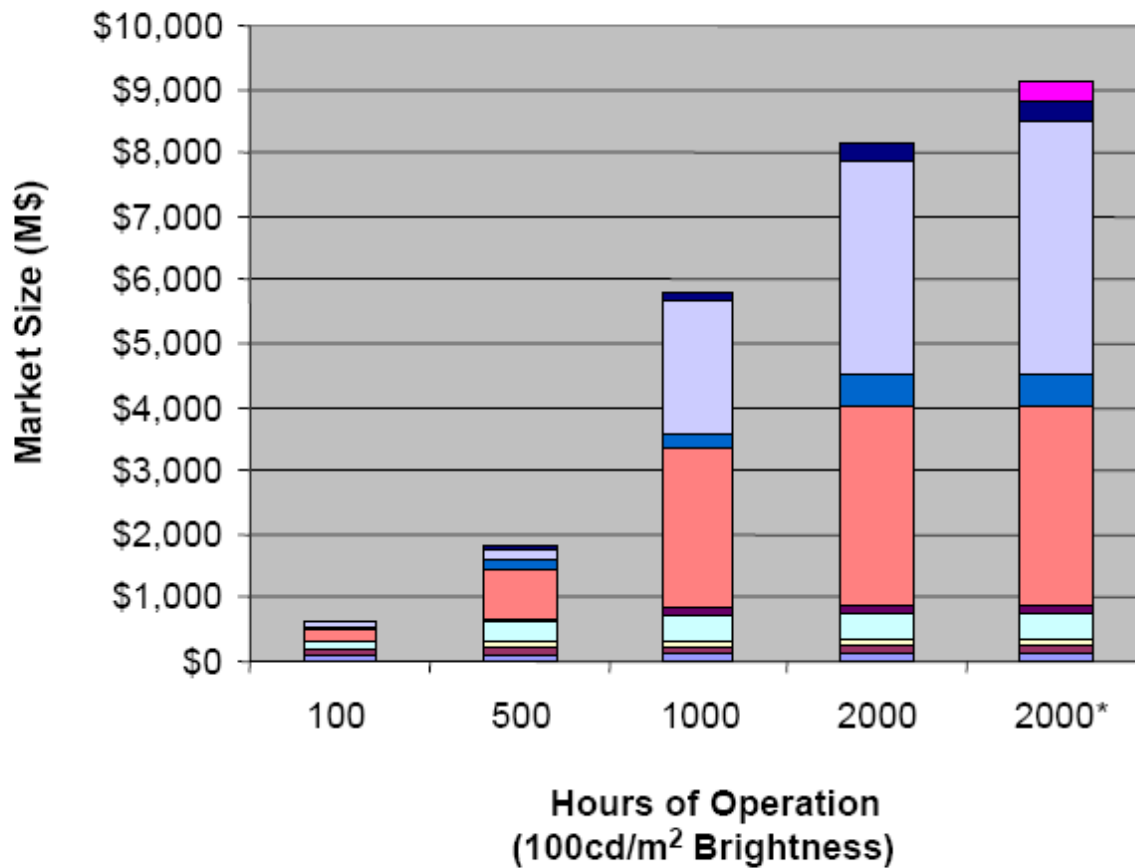
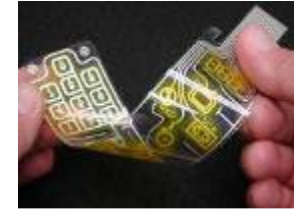
- **Potential benefits:**

- New product design opportunities
- Portable devices with large, storable displays
- Lightweight and robust
- Lower production costs through R2R manufacture



Glass displays have limitations....,

# Serviceable Market vs. Display Lifetime



- Electronic Signage, Outdoor Advertising
- Coin Op/Gaming
- Backlighting Electronics
- Toys
- Point-of-Purchase (POP)
- Smart Labels
- Smart Cards
- Merchandising Cards
- Greeting Cards
- Military

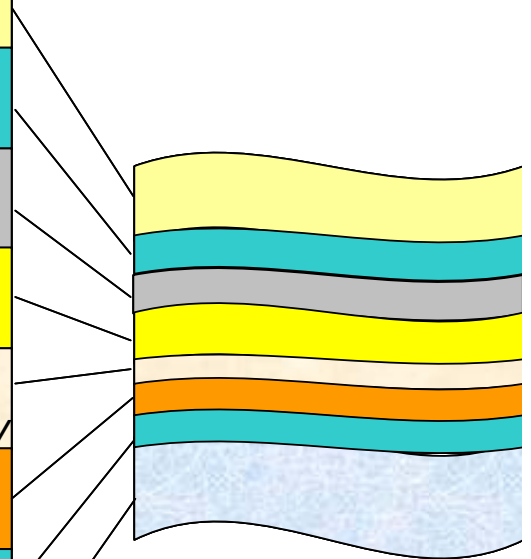
\* High Brightness

# OLED Displays

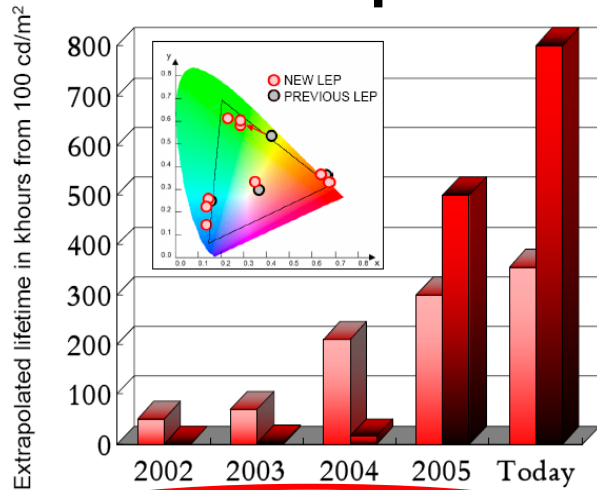
## Flexible OLED Challenges



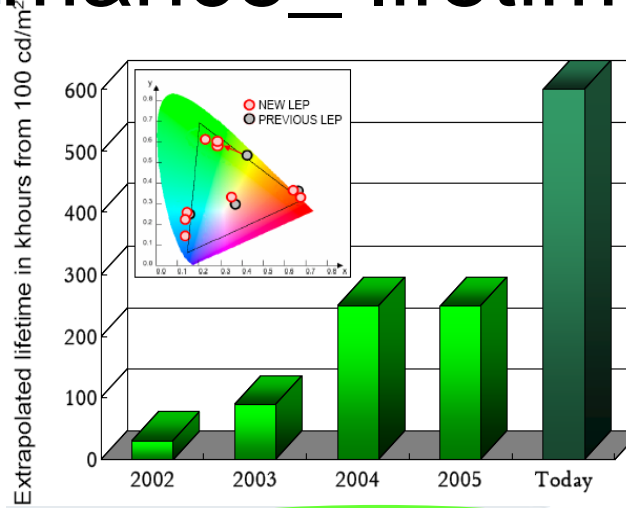
Encapsulation film <i>Transparent, robust</i>
Barrier <i>Transparent, reduced permeability to O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O</i>
Cathode (e.g., Ba,Ca,Al) <i>Transparent for top emission , high conductivity</i>
Organic layer stack <i>HTL, Interlayer, LEP</i>
Anode (e.g., ITO) <i>Transparent for bottom emission, high conductivity</i>
Backplane <i>TFTs, tracks, vias and planarisation</i>
Barrier <i>Transparent, reduced permeability to O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O</i>
Substrate <i>Transparent, Robust, thermally stable</i>



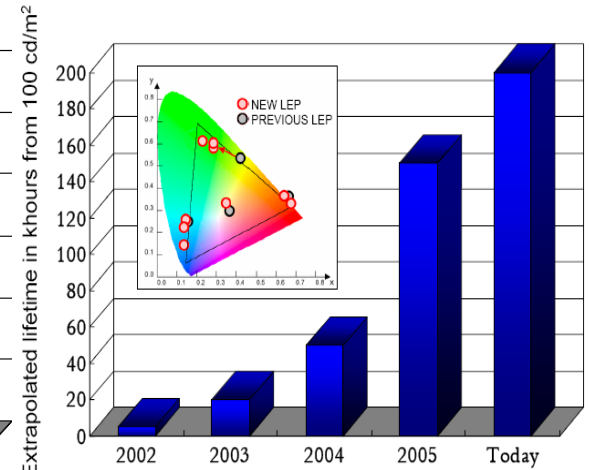
# OLED performance\_ lifetime issue



**Efficiency: 11cd/A**

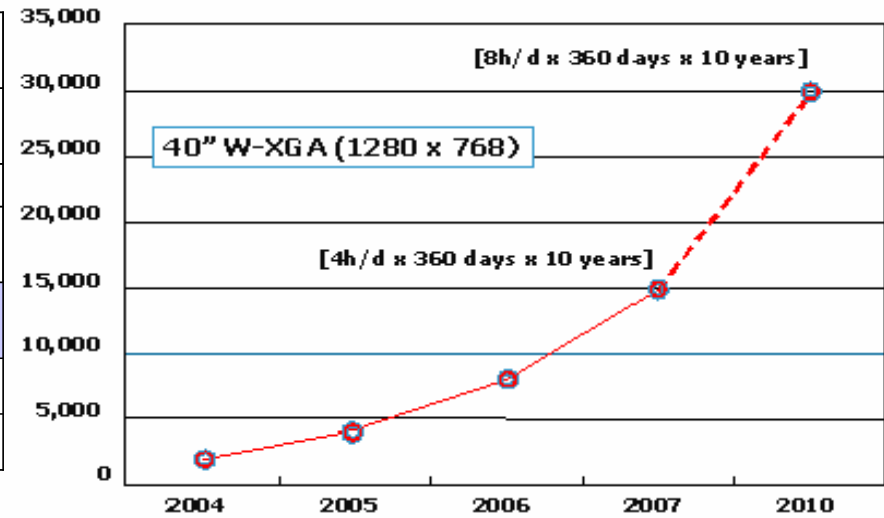


**Efficiency: 16cd/A**



**Efficiency: 9cd/A**

T50 (1000 cd/m <sup>2</sup> )	Performance Data			
	Red (phosphorescent)	Green	Blue	White
Efficiency (cd/A)	10	16	9	7
Colour (at 100 cd/m <sup>2</sup> )	x= 0.67 y= 0.32	x= 0.29 y= 0.64	x= 0.14 y= 0.21	x= 0.33 y= 0.31
Lifetime (spin) (hrs)	24k	35k	10k	5.2k
Equivalent lifetime at 400 cd/m <sup>2</sup> (hrs)	150k	198k	62k	27k
Equivalent lifetime at 100 cd/m <sup>2</sup> (hrs)	~ 2.4m	~ 2.8m	~ 1m	~ 330k

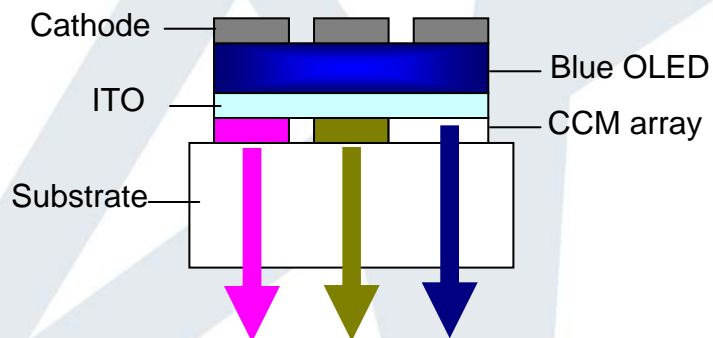
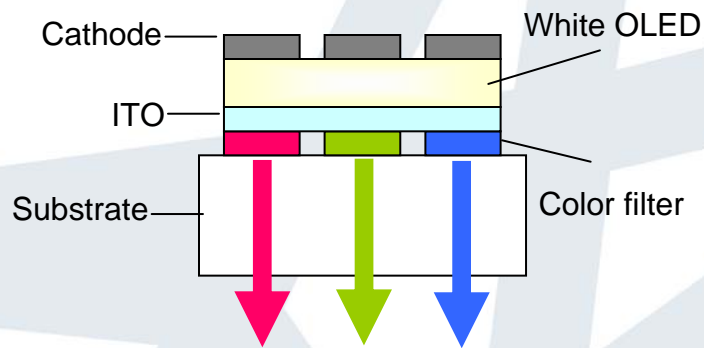
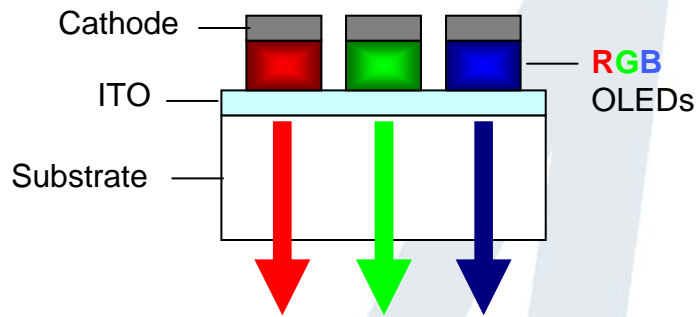


Sumation: 11<sup>th</sup> April 2007-MRS 2007 San Francisco

# OLED performance\_ lifetime issue

	Colour	CIE (x,y)	Cd/A	T50 LT/k hrs @ 1000nits	Reference
DuPont	Blue	0.14, 0.14	4	10	SID 2007
UDC	Blue	0.16, 0.27	11 (Lm/W)	6 (at 500cd/m2)	
Idemitsu	Blue	0.14, 0.16	11	20	Finetech 2007
Sumation	Blue	0.14, 0.19	9	10	OEC-07
DuPont	Red	0.66, 0.34	21	46	SID 2007
UDC	Red	0.64, 0.36	20	330	SID 2007
Idemitsu	Red	0.67, 0.33	11	160	SID 2007
Sumation	Red	0.67, 0.32	10	67	OEC-07
DuPont	Green	0.29, 0.65	24	230	SID 2007
UDC	Green	0.38, 0.59	67 (Lm/W)	250	SID 2007
Idemitsu	Green	0.33, 0.63	36	64	Finetech 2007
Sumation	Green	0.29, 0.64	16	78	OEC-07
Kodak	White	0.32, 0.34	13	50	OledAsia 2006
Sumation	White	0.33, 0.31	8	8	OEC-07

# Method of Color Patterning



## Patterned-Emitting Layer (RGB)

### (Advantages)

- High Efficiency
- Good color

### (Disadvantages)

- Aperture ratio issues
- Shadow masking for RGB patterning

## White-Emitting Layer with Color-Filter Array

- No mask (Un-patterned emitting layer)
- Aperture ratio not affected by RGB patterning
- Enabled by high-efficiency white

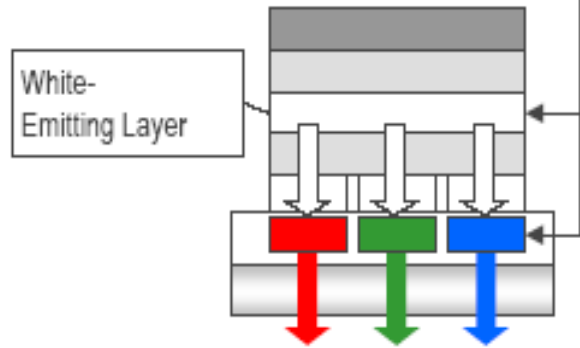
- Loss efficiency due to filter absorption

## Blue-Emitting Layer with Color Changing medium

- Un-patterned emitting layer (no mask)

- Request high eff. blue
- Blue stability is lowest
- CCM materials with std. lithography tools

# W- RGB vs. W - RGBW



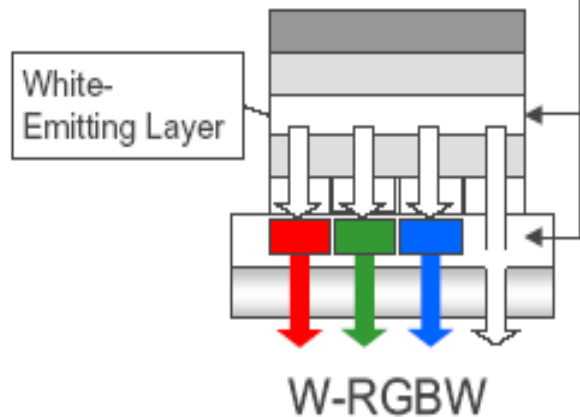
## White-Emitting Layer with RGB Color-Filter Array (W- RGB )

### (Advantages)

- No mask (un-patterned EL layer)
- Enabled by high-efficiency white
- Fewer OLED processing step
- Reduced differential aging

### (Disadvantages)

- Efficiency loss due to filter absorption
- Gamut controlled by white spectrum

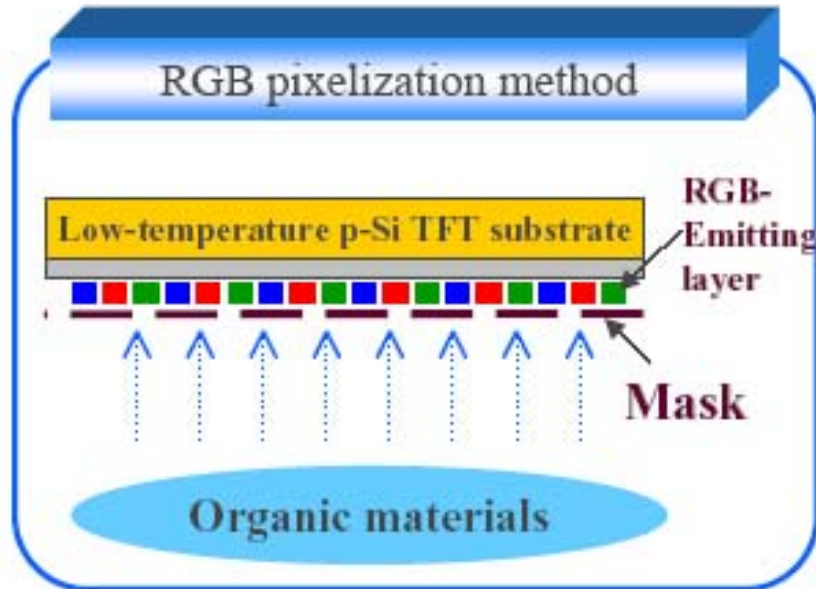


## White-Emitting Layer with W- RGB Color-Filter Array (W- RGBW )

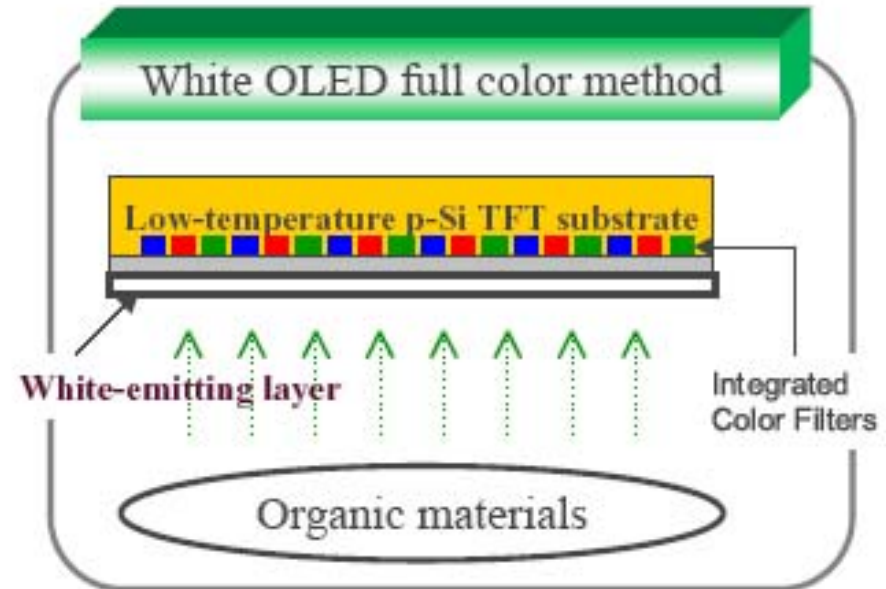
- No mask (un-patterned EL layer)
- High efficiency white sub-pixel results **significantly power reduction** (a large portion of image content contains white)
- Enabled by high-efficiency white

- Efficiency loss due to filter absorption

# RGB vs. White OLED + Color Filter



One mask process for each  
RGB – Total 3 contacts



No mask process

1. Maskless and scalable technology
2. Simplified process

# RGB vs RGBW

- Displays from Kodak

Model	Size	Example Application	Technology	Dot Count	Color Arrangement
ALE251	2.2	DSC	RGB+PSM <sup>2</sup>	521x218	RGB Delta
ALE247	2.2	Cell Phone	RGB+PSM	528x220	RGB Stripe
ALE257	2.2	Cell Phone	W+CFA <sup>3</sup>	528x220	RGB Stripe
ALE258	2.2	DSC	W+CFA	521x218	RGB Stripe
ALE269	2.5	Cell Phone	W+CFA	720x320	RGB Stripe
ALE269W	2.5	Cell Phone	W+CFA - RGBW <sup>4</sup>	720x320	RGBW Stripe
ALE255	1.9	DSC	W+CFA	521x218	RGB Delta
ALE334	3.5	PDA	W+CFA - RGBW	968x322	RGBW Stripe
ALE293 <sup>1</sup>	2.2	DSC	W+CFA - RGBW	862x240	RGBW Delta
ALE294 <sup>1</sup>	2.5	DSC	RGB+PSM	720x240	RGB Delta

Product: Kodak LS633 DSC (2003)



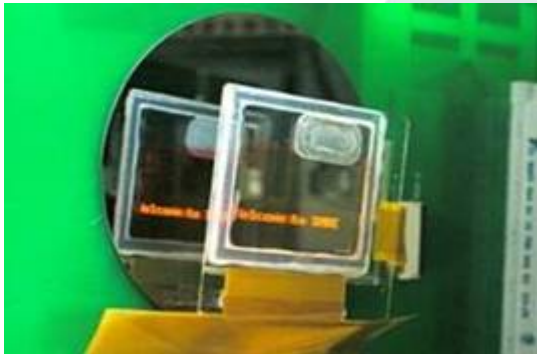
Product: Sanyo Xacti DVC (2006)

Kodak's AM635LX (2005)

Kodak:  
RGB and RGBW technologies



# PMOLED and AMOLED



Source: IMRE

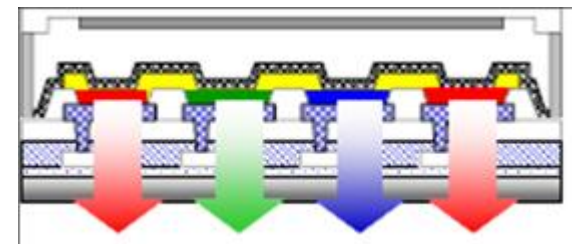
<b>PM vs AM</b>	<b>PMOLED</b>	<b>AMOLED</b>
<b>Emission Period</b>	<b>Line Time</b>	<b>Frame Time</b>
<b>Driving Current</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>OLED Driving Voltage</b>	<b>High (&gt;12V)</b>	<b>Low (~8V)</b>
<b>Life Time</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Long</b>
<b>Power Dissipation</b>	<b>Probably High</b>	<b>Probably Low*</b>
<b>Limitation of size</b>	<b>Small</b>	<b>Larger</b>



Source: UDC

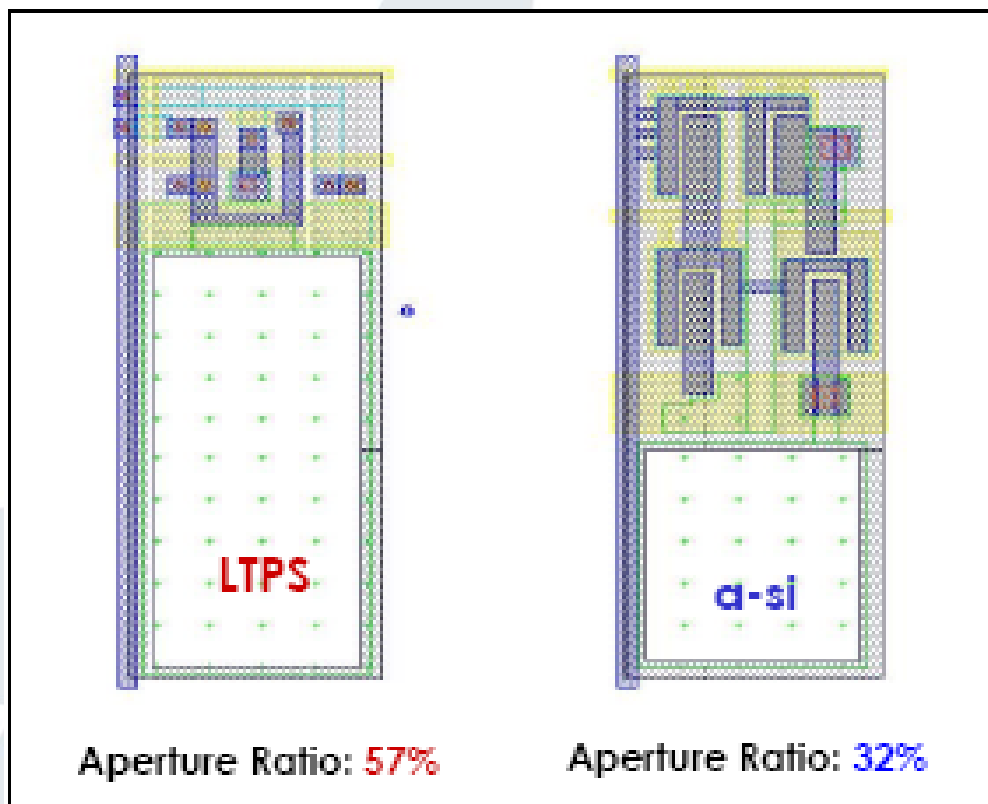
AMOLED for high density and large size displays

## AMOLED



IMRE

# TFT-AMOLEDs: Benefits from LTPS



\*Based on 15" 1024x768 XGA (84ppi)

SAMSUNG SDI SPECIFICATION

### 2.65" VGA AMOLED

World's Highest Resolution AMOLED : 302ppi

Panel Size	40.32*53.76mm
Resolution	480*RGB*640
Pixel Pitch	84.-(302ppi)
Emission Structure	Top Emission
Response Time	<0.01 ms
Number of Color	262K
Brightness	200cd/m <sup>2</sup>
Contrast Ratio	2,000:1
Color Purity	NTSC 90%

SAMSUNG SDI



■ **AR increased → Current density reduced → Lifetime improved**

# PMOLED vs AMOLED

---

## PMOLED

Requires cathode patterning

High-pulsed drive currents

Number of rows limited to <240

Shorted pixels result in cross-talk or line defect

Significant capacitance issue

Simple structure/fabrication

Much lower manufacturing cost compare to AMOLED. However, PMOLEDs command much lower price compare to AMOLED

## AMOLED

Each pixels can ON for entire frame time (not pulsed as PMOLED)-

Better operation stability

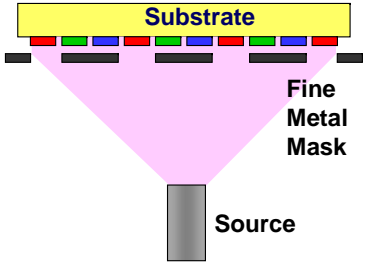
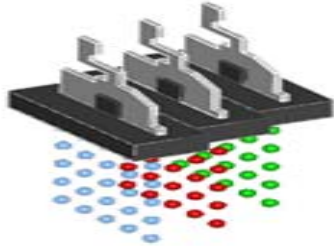
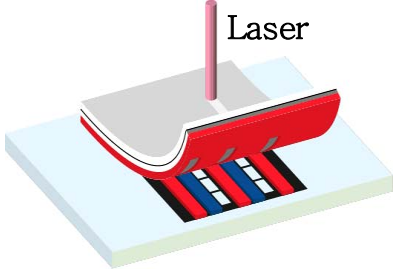
Short defects result unlit pixels. AM circuits prevents cross-talk

Lower current pulses and lower capacitances allows much larger display

Non-uniformities in LTPS backplanes results in display non-uniformities

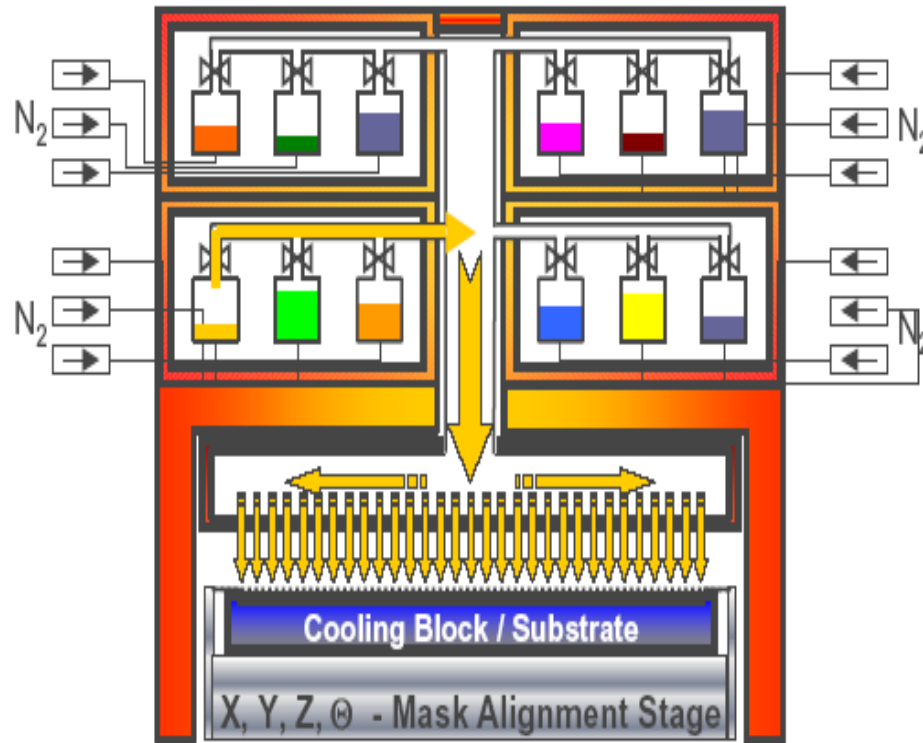
High manufacturing cost associated with AM substrate

# OLED process technologies

Items	Evaporation (Shadow Mask)	Ink-Jet Printing	LITI
	 <p>Substrate Fine Metal Mask Source</p>		 <p>Laser</p>
Materials	Small Molecule (SM)	Polymer (LEP)	LEP, SM, Hybrid
Position Accuracy	$\pm 15\mu\text{m}$	$\pm 10\mu\text{m}$	$\pm 3.5\mu\text{m}$
Resolution	~200ppi	~200ppi	~400ppi
Aperture Ratio (Top Emission)	30~50%	40~50%	40~60%
Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• M/P: Gen. 2</li> <li>• Develop: Gen. 4</li> <li>- Glass handle limit</li> <li>- Mask align limit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size: &gt;2m</li> <li>• Simple/Economic process</li> <li>• Material development issue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size: &gt;4G</li> <li>• Dry Patterning /multi-stacking</li> <li>• Donor film required</li> </ul>

# New Technologies\_ OVPD

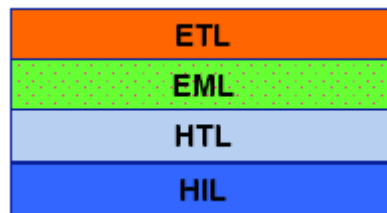
## Organic Physical Vapor Deposition (OPVD)



### Key advantage of OVPD

#### Scalability: Large area Deposition

- Close Coupled Showerhead  
(Uniform, efficient, no increase the source temperature)
- Throughput  
(High deposition rate)
- Yield  
(Fast layer switching valve, precise deposition control by mass flow controller, simple contamination control and particle control)
- Reduced running cost  
(materials consumption, uptime, investment and facilities cost)
- Full color OLED



# Large area OLEDs made by OPVD

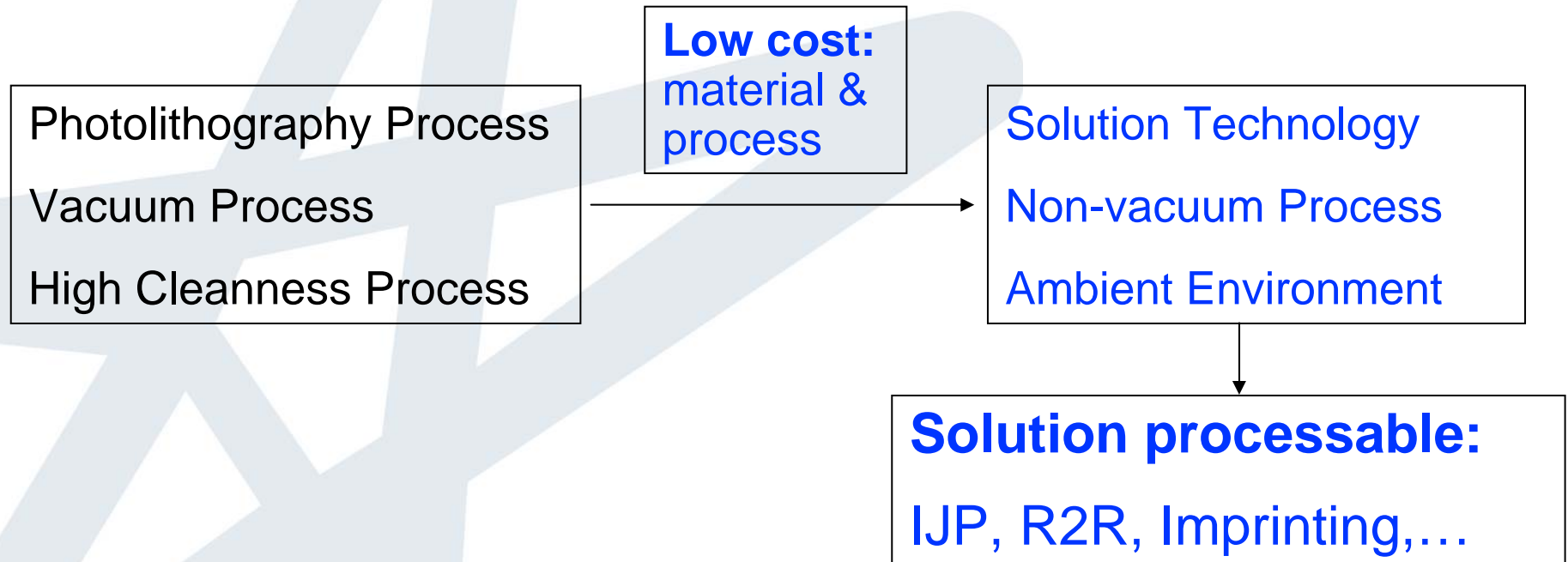


Source: Kodak

# FPD technologies

A paradigm shift in future display technologies

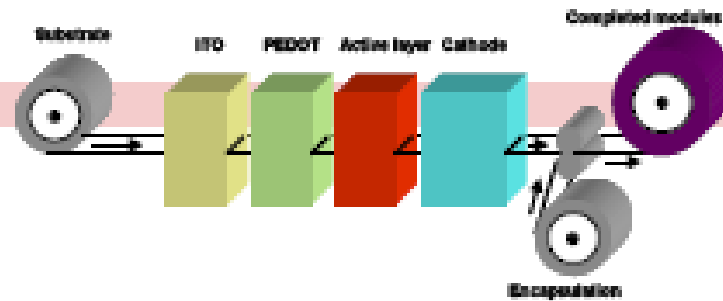
-High cost, new materials, large substrate, fabrication tech



# Solution printing technologies

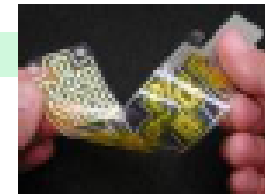
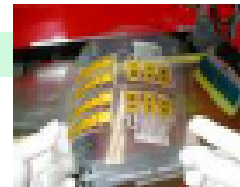
Roll-to-roll  
printing

**TOPPAN**



Screen  
Printing

**ADD-VISION**

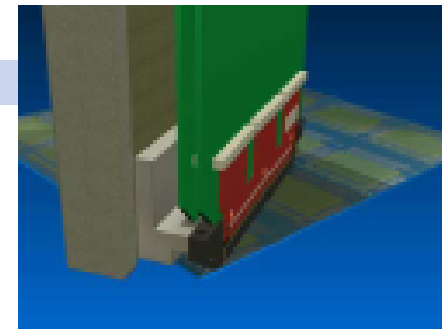


Ink jet  
printing

**litrex**  
Corporation

**PHILIPS**

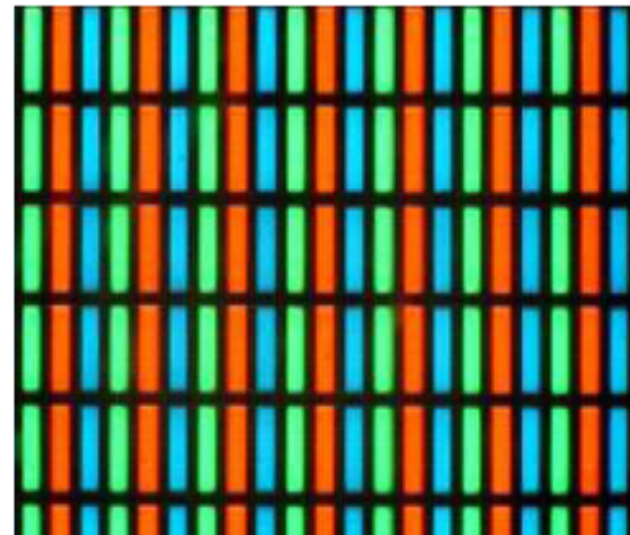
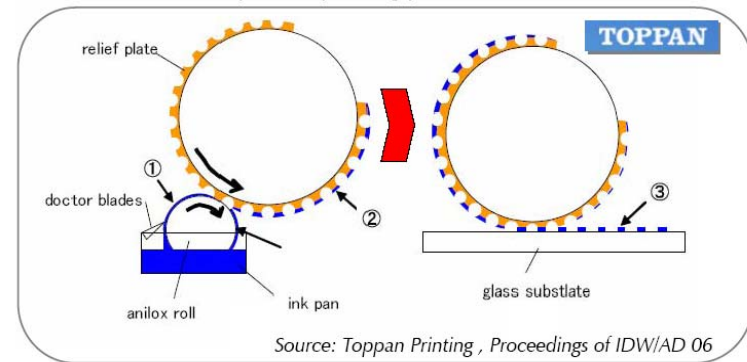
**EPSON**



*Ink jet printing is currently the key to  
efficient, scaleable display manufacture*

# Solution process\_ R2R printing

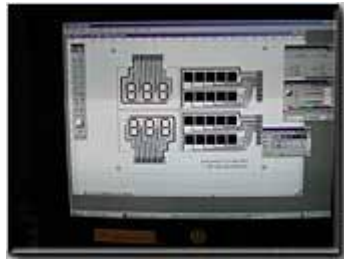
- 5" displays demonstrated by Toppan
  - 70 ppi resolution (>200 ppi is feasible)
  - 360  $\mu\text{m}$  pixel pitch
  - Thickness variation  $\sim 4\%$ , luminance
  - **No need any patterning**
  - **Save cost and processing time**



Source: Toppan Printing, Proceedings of IDW/AD 06

# Solution process \_ screen printing

Screen Printing Fabrication Process



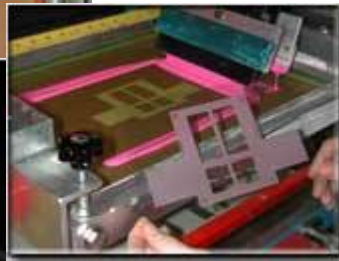
Mask design



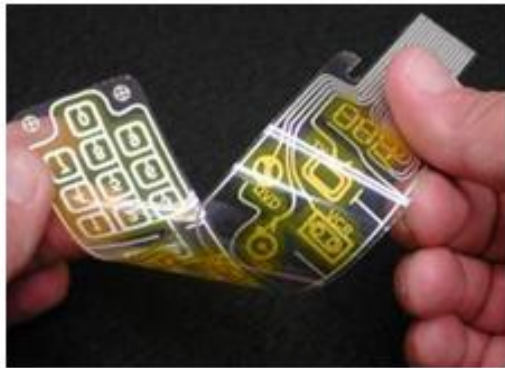
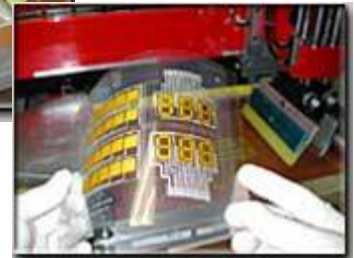
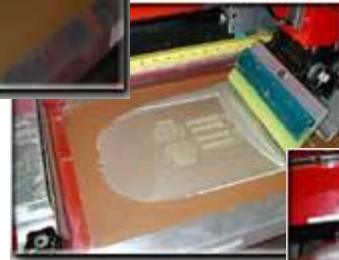
ITO Patterning/Etching



LEP Printing



Cathode printing



Source: Add-Vision

Target market: Low-cost simple display and lighting panel



IMRE

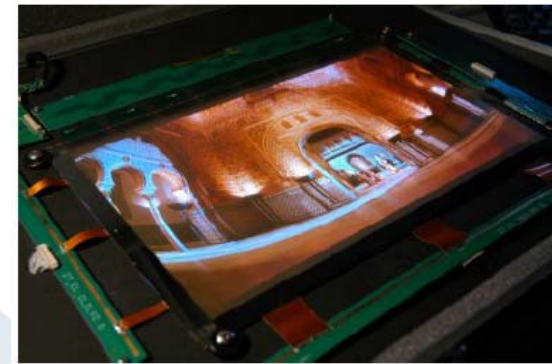
# Solution process\_ inkjet printing



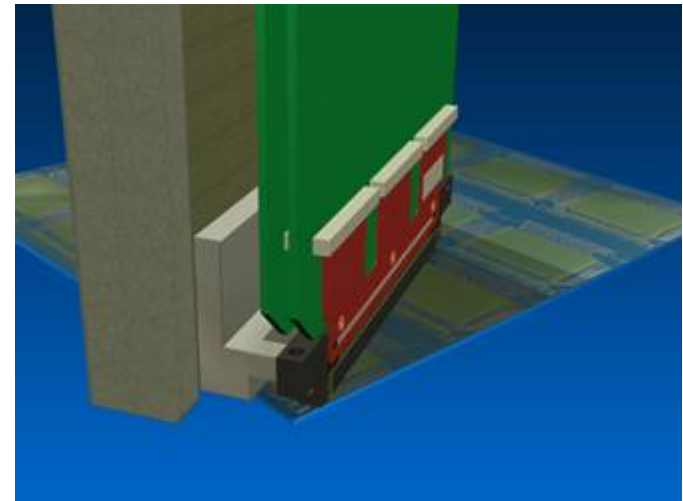
Seiko Epson: IJP 40" OLED TV

CDT is leading IJP technologies:

- High scalability using multi-nozzles
- Very complex and relatively slow



CDT: IJP 14" OLED TV



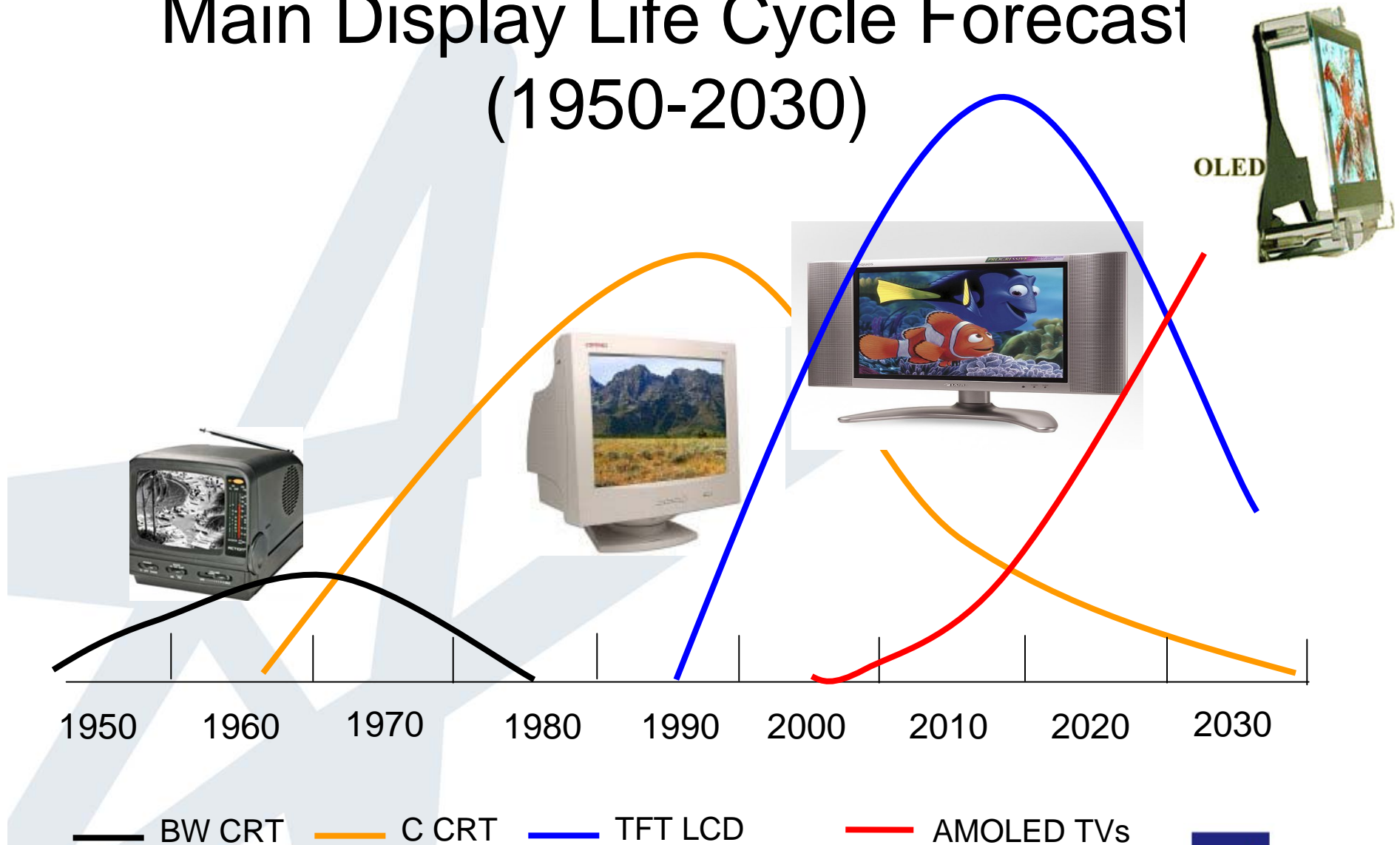
# Challenges and Opportunities

- **Materials**: blue & white EL, low-cost ITO alternatives
- **Process**: scalable, cost, high yield
- **TFT Backplane**: compatible with existing LCD technology and infrastructure
- **Encapsulation**: low cost, design flexibility, OLED lifetime must be improved to meet commercial specifications
- **A Killer Application**: flexible or preformed OLED displays, WOLED lighting or backlight...
- **OLED Industry**: still in the early stage of development
- **OLED Market Image**: slow but steady market penetration

# Challenges and Opportunities

- **OLED Displays** will have more market share for portable applications (display quality, thickness, light weight etc)
- **PMOLED**: tech is matured & recognized by the market
- **AMOLED**: TFT backplane technology is the key with promising progresses, top-emission is crucial
- **Driving Tech** for AMOLED is still under development
- **Color-by-White** is promising (one device stack, higher yield, & more reproducible, high performance WOLED is needed)
- **Solution Printing** tech is viable for large size and low cost
- **FOLED** will be very attractive for application in conformal, fordable or even flexible lighting and displays

# Main Display Life Cycle Forecast (1950-2030)



Source: Display Bank

More news on OLED TVs: <http://www.blogcatalog.com/blogs/oled-displays/posts/tag/oled-tv/>



IMRE



Thank you



IMRE